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FILED
TARRANT COUNTY
3/25/2015 5:06:42 PM
THOMAS A. WILDER
DISTRICT CLERK

352-277546-15

CAUSE NO. _____

MILTON HERSHON	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
	§	
	§	
V.	§	_____ JUDICIAL COURT
	§	
	§	
STATE FARM LLOYDS	§	TARRANT COUNTY,
AND FELICIANO GALLEGOS	§	TEXAS

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

NOW Comes Milton Hershon, hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff," complaining of Defendants, State Farm Lloyds and Feliciano Gallegos (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants") and hereby respectfully shows unto the Court and Jury as follows:

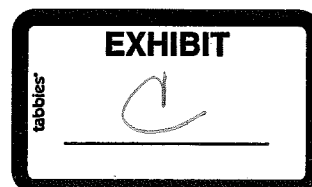
I. DISCOVERY CONTROL PLAN

Plaintiff intends for discovery to be conducted under Level 3 of Rule 190 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. This case involves complex issues and will require extensive discovery. Therefore, Plaintiff asks the Court to order that discovery be conducted in accordance with a discovery control plan tailored to the particular circumstances of this suit.

II. PARTIES

Plaintiff, Milton Hershon, is an individual and resident of Texas.

Defendant, State Farm Lloyds ("State Farm"), is a Texas domestic Lloyd's plan insurance company that, on information and belief, is licensed to conduct the business of insurance in Texas and/or has its principal place of business located in Texas. Additionally, one or more of State Farm's "members" are citizens of Texas. It can be served with citation by serving its



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registered agent, Rendi Black C/O State Farm, by certified mail, return receipt requested, at 17301 Preston Road, Dallas, Texas 75252-5727.

Defendant, Feliciano Gallegos ("Gallegos"), is a citizen of Texas who can be served with process by certified mail, return receipt requested, at 8821 3rd St., Apt. 4, Frisco, Texas 75034, or wherever else he may be found.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has jurisdiction over this case in that the amount in controversy exceeds the minimum jurisdictional limits of this Court.

Venue is mandatory and proper in Tarrant County, Texas, because all or a substantial part of the events giving rise to the lawsuit occurred in this county (*see* Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §15.002) and the insured property that is the basis of this lawsuit is located in Tarrant County, Texas. *See* Tex. Ins. Code §2210.552 and Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §15.032 (*see* below). Venue is proper and mandatory in Tarrant County against all the Defendants in this case because venue is mandatory and/or proper against at least one Defendant and all claims or actions in this case arise out of the same transaction, occurrence, or series of transaction or occurrences. *See* Tex. Civ. Prac. & Rem. Code §15.005.

IV. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT

All conditions precedent to recovery have been performed, waived, or have occurred.

V. FACTS

- A. Plaintiff is the owner of insurance Policy Number 58B2F3337 issued by Defendant, State Farm (hereinafter referred to as the "Policy").
- B. Plaintiff owned the insured property, which is specifically located at 417 Charleston Ct., Hurst, Texas 76054-3517 on October 26, 2013 (hereinafter referred to as the "Property").

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- C. Defendant State Farm or its agent sold the Policy, insuring the Property, to Plaintiff.
- D. On or about October 26, 2013, a wind and hailstorm struck the Hurst, Texas area causing severe damage to homes and businesses throughout the area, including Plaintiff's Property.
- E. Plaintiff submitted a claim to State Farm against the Policy for roof damage and water damage the Property sustained as a result of the wind and hailstorm. Plaintiff asked that State Farm cover the cost of repairs to the Property pursuant to the Policy and any other available coverages under the Policy.
- F. Defendants have assigned claim number 43-420R-671 to Plaintiff's claim.
- G. Defendant Gallegos was the agent for State Farm and represented State Farm in regard to Plaintiff's claim. Gallegos also adjusted the Plaintiff's claim by investigating, processing, evaluating, approving, and/or denying, in whole or in part, Plaintiff's claim. As such, Gallegos acted as an insurance adjuster engaged in the business of insurance with respect to the Plaintiff's insurance claim. Therefore, Gallegos is a "person" who is individually liable for his unfair methods of competition or unfair or deceptive acts or practices under the Texas Insurance Code and the DTPA. Furthermore, Gallegos acted as the agent and representative for State Farm in this claim.
- H. Defendant Gallegos improperly adjusted the Plaintiff's claim. Defendant Gallegos conducted a substandard inspection, which is evidenced in his report, which failed to include many of Plaintiff's damages.¹ His estimate did not allow adequate funds to cover repairs to restore Plaintiff's home. Without limitation, Gallegos misrepresented the cause of, scope of, and cost to repair the damage to Plaintiff's Property, as well as the amount of and insurance

¹ See Exhibit A: Defendant Gallegos's Denial Letter Dated 3/17/14.

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coverage for Plaintiff's claim/loss under Plaintiff's insurance policy.² Gallegos made these and other misrepresentations to Plaintiff as well as to State Farm. Plaintiff and State Farm both relied on Gallegos's misrepresentations, including but not limited those regarding the cause of, scope of, and cost to repair the damage to Plaintiff's Property, and Plaintiff has been damaged as a result of such reliance. Gallegos's misrepresentations caused State Farm to underpay Plaintiff on his insurance claim and, as such, Plaintiff has not been able to properly and completely repair the damages to Plaintiff's property. This has caused additional, further damage to Plaintiff's property. Gallegos also advised Plaintiff as to how he could repair his Property so as to prevent further damage to the Plaintiff's Property.³ This advice was negligent and false because it turns out Plaintiff could not properly repair his Property and prevent future damage by following Gallegos's advice. Plaintiff's Property has sustained further damages as a result.

- I. Defendants State Farm and Gallegos misrepresented that the damages caused by the wind and hailstorm were not covered under the Policy.⁴ However, Defendants' representations were false because Plaintiff's wind and hailstorm damages exceed \$83,000.00 and were covered under the policy.
- J. Defendants State Farm and Gallegos failed to properly adjust the claims and Defendants have denied at least a portion of the claims without an adequate investigation, even though the Policy provided coverage for losses such as those suffered by Plaintiff.
- K. These false representations allowed Defendants to financially gain by wrongfully denying at least a portion of Plaintiff's claim.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

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- L. Plaintiff's claim(s) still remain unpaid and the Plaintiff still has not been able to properly repair the Property.
- M. Defendant State Farm failed to perform its contractual duty to adequately compensate Plaintiff under the terms of the Policy. Specifically, Defendant failed and refused to pay the full proceeds of the Policy, although due demand was made for proceeds to be paid in an amount sufficient to cover the damaged Property and all conditions precedent to recovery upon the Policy had been carried out and accomplished by Plaintiff. Defendant's conduct constitutes a breach of the insurance contract between Defendant and Plaintiff.
- N. Defendants misrepresented to Plaintiff that the damage to the Property was not covered under the Policy, even though the damage was caused by a covered occurrence. Defendants' conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE Section 541.060(a)(1).
- O. Defendants failed to make an attempt to settle Plaintiff's claim in a fair manner, although they were aware of their liability to Plaintiff under the Policy. Defendants' conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE Section 541.060 (a)(2)(A).
- P. Defendants failed to explain to Plaintiff the reasons for their offer of an inadequate settlement. Specifically, Defendants failed to offer Plaintiff adequate compensation, without any explanation why full payment was not being made. Furthermore, Defendants did not communicate that any future settlements or payments would be forthcoming to pay for the entire losses covered under the Policy, nor did they provide any explanation for the failure to adequately settle Plaintiff's claim. TEX. INS. CODE Section 541.060(a)(3).

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- Q. Defendants failed to affirm or deny coverage of Plaintiff's claim within a reasonable time. Specifically, Plaintiff did not receive timely indication of acceptance or rejection, regarding the full and entire claim, in writing from Defendants. Defendants' conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE Section 541.060(a)(4).
- R. Defendants refused to fully compensate Plaintiff, under the terms of the Policy, even though Defendants failed to conduct a reasonable investigation. Specifically, Defendants performed an outcome-oriented investigation of Plaintiff's claim, which resulted in a biased, unfair and inequitable evaluation of Plaintiffs' losses to the Property. Defendants' conduct constitutes a violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Unfair Settlement Practices. TEX. INS. CODE Section 541.060 (a)(7).
- S. Defendants failed to meet their obligations under the Texas Insurance Code regarding timely acknowledging Plaintiff's claim, beginning an investigation of Plaintiff's claim and requesting all information reasonably necessary to investigate Plaintiff's claim within the statutorily mandated deadline. Defendants' conduct constitutes violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims, TEX. INS. CODE Section 542.055.
- T. Defendants failed to accept or deny Plaintiff's full and entire claim within the statutory mandated deadline of receiving all necessary information. Defendants' conduct constitutes violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims. TEX. INS. CODE Section 542.056.
- U. Defendants failed to meet their obligations under the Texas Insurance Code regarding payment of claim without delay. Specifically, Defendants have delayed full payment of Plaintiff's claim longer than allowed and, to date, Plaintiff has not yet received full payment

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for his claim. Defendants' conduct constitutes violation of the Texas Insurance Code, Prompt Payment of Claims, TEX. INS. CODE Section 542.058.

- V. From and after the time Plaintiff's claim was presented to Defendants, the liability of Defendants to pay the full claim in accordance with the terms of the Policy was reasonably clear. However, Defendants have refused to pay Plaintiff in full, despite there being no basis whatsoever on which a reasonable insurance company would have relied to deny the full payment. Defendants' conduct constitutes a breach of the common law duty of good faith and fair dealing.
- W. As a result of Defendants' wrongful acts and omissions, Plaintiff was forced to retain the professional services of the attorney and law firm who is representing Plaintiff with respect to these causes of action.
- X. Plaintiff's experience is not an isolated case. The acts and omissions of Defendants committed in this case, or similar acts and omissions, occur with such frequency that they constitute a general business practice of Defendants with regard to handling these types of claims. Defendants' entire process is unfairly designed to reach favorable outcomes for the company at the expense of the policyholder.

VI. THEORIES OF LIABILITY

A. Cause of Action for Breach of Contract Against State Farm

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

According to the Insurance Policy that Plaintiff purchased, State Farm has the duty to investigate and pay Plaintiff's policy benefits for claims made for covered damages, including

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additional benefits under the Policy, resulting from the wind and hailstorm. As a result of the wind and hailstorm and/or ensuing losses from the wind and hailstorm, both of which are covered perils under the Policy, Plaintiff's Property has been damaged.

Defendant's failure and refusal, as described above, to pay the adequate compensation as it is obligated to do under the terms of the Policy in question and under the laws of the State of Texas, constitutes a breach of Defendant's contract with Plaintiff. As a result of this breach of contract, Plaintiff has suffered the damages that are described in this petition.

B. Cause of Action for Violation of Section 542 Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

Defendants' acts, omissions, failures and conduct that are described in this petition violate Section 542 of the Texas Insurance Code. Within the timeframe required after the receipt of either actual or written notice of Plaintiff's claim, Defendants did not request from Plaintiff any items, statements, and forms that they reasonably believed at that time would be required from Plaintiff for Plaintiff's claim. As a result, Defendants have violated Section 542 by failing to accept or reject Plaintiff's claim in writing within the statutory timeframe. Defendants also violated Section 542 by failing to pay Plaintiff's claim within the applicable statutory period. In addition, in the event it is determined Defendants owe Plaintiff any additional monies on Plaintiff's claim, Defendants have automatically violated Section 542 in this case.

C. DTPA Cause of Action Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

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Plaintiff incorporates all the allegations in this petition for this cause of action against Defendants under the provisions of the DTPA. Plaintiff is a consumer of goods and services provided by Defendants pursuant to the DTPA. Plaintiff has met all conditions precedent to bringing this cause of action against Defendants. Specifically, Defendants' violations of the DTPA include, without limitation, the following matters:

By their acts, omissions, failures, and conduct that are described in this petition, Defendants have violated Sections 17.46 (b)(2), (5), (7), (9), (12), (20) and (24) of the DTPA. In this respect, Defendants' violations include, without limitation, (1) their unreasonable delays in the investigation, adjustment and resolution of Plaintiff's claim, (2) their failure to give Plaintiff the benefit of the doubt, and (3) their failure to pay for the proper repair of Plaintiff's home on which liability had become reasonably clear, which gives Plaintiff the right to recover under Section 17.46 (b)(2).

As described in this petition, Defendants represented to Plaintiff that their insurance policy and Defendants' adjusting and investigative services had characteristics or benefits that it did not have, which gives Plaintiff the right to recover under Section 17.46 (b)(5) of the DTPA;

As described in this petition, Defendants represented to Plaintiff that their insurance policy and Defendants' adjusting and investigative services were of a particular standard, quality, or grade when they were of another in violation of Section 17.46 (b)(7) of the DTPA;

As described in this petition, Defendants advertised their insurance policy and adjusting and investigative services with intent not to sell them as advertised in violation of Section 17.46 (b)(9) of the DTPA;

As described in this petition, Defendants represented to Plaintiff that their insurance policy and Defendants' adjusting and investigative services conferred or involved rights,

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remedies, or obligations that it did not have, which gives Plaintiff the right to recover under Section 17.46 (b)(12) of the DTPA;

As described in this petition, Defendants failed to disclose information concerning goods or services which were known at the time of the transaction and such failure to disclose was intended to induce Plaintiff into a transaction into which the Plaintiff would not have entered had the information been disclosed, which gives Plaintiff the right to recover under Section 17.46 (b)(24) of the DTPA;

Defendants have breached an express warranty that the damage caused by the wind and hailstorm would be covered under the insurance policies. This breach entitles Plaintiff to recover under Sections 17.46 (b)(12) and (20) and 17.50 (a)(2) of the DTPA;

Defendants' actions, as described in this petition, are unconscionable in that they took advantage of Plaintiff's lack of knowledge, ability, and experience to a grossly unfair degree. Defendants' unconscionable conduct gives Plaintiff the right to relief under Section 17.50(a)(3) of the DTPA; and

Defendants' conduct, acts, omissions, and failures, as described in this petition, are unfair practices in the business of insurance in violation of Section 17.50 (a)(4) of the DTPA.

All of the above-described acts, omissions, and failures of Defendants are a producing cause of Plaintiff's damages that are described in this petition. All of the above-described acts, omissions, and failures of Defendants were done knowingly and intentionally as those terms are used in the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

D. Cause of Action for Unfair Insurance Practices Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

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Plaintiff incorporates all the allegations in this petition for this cause of action against Defendants under the Texas Insurance Code. Plaintiff has satisfied all conditions precedent to bringing this cause of action. By their acts, omissions, failures, and conduct, Defendants have engaged in unfair and deceptive acts or practices in the business of insurance in violation of 541 of the Texas Insurance Code. Such violations include, without limitation, all the conduct described in this petition plus Defendants' unreasonable delays in the investigation, adjustment, and resolution of Plaintiff's claim and Defendants' failure to pay for the proper repair of Plaintiff's home on which liability had become reasonably clear. They further include Defendants' failure to give Plaintiff the benefit of the doubt. Specifically, Defendants are guilty of the following unfair insurance practices:

- A. Engaging in false, misleading, and deceptive acts or practices in the business of insurance in this case;
- B. Engaging in unfair claims settlement practices;
- C. Misrepresenting to Plaintiff pertinent facts or policy provisions relating to the coverage at issue;
- D. Not attempting in good faith to effectuate a prompt, fair, and equitable settlement of claims submitted in which liability has become reasonably clear;
- E. Failing to affirm or deny coverage of Plaintiff's claim within a reasonable time;
- F. Refusing to pay Plaintiff's claim without conducting a reasonable investigation with respect to the claim; and
- G. Failing to provide promptly to a policyholder a reasonable explanation of the basis in the insurance policy in relation to the facts or applicable law for the denial of a claim or for the offer of a company's settlement.

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Defendants have also breached the Texas Insurance Code when they breached their duty of good faith and fair dealing. Defendants' conduct as described herein has resulted in Plaintiff's damages that are described in this petition.

All of the above-described acts, omissions, and failures of Defendants were done knowingly as that term is used in the Texas Insurance Code.

E. Cause of Action for Breach of Duty of Good Faith and Fair Dealing Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

Plaintiff incorporates all the allegations of the preceding paragraphs for this cause of action. By its acts, omissions, failures and conduct, Defendants have breached their common law duty of good faith and fair dealing by failing to pay the proper amounts on Plaintiff's entire claim without any reasonable basis and by failing to conduct a reasonable investigation to determine whether there was a reasonable basis for this denial. Defendants have also breached this duty by unreasonably delaying payment of Plaintiff's entire claim and by failing to settle Plaintiff's entire claim because Defendants knew or should have known that it was reasonably clear that the claim was covered. These acts, omissions, failures, and conduct of Defendants are a proximate cause of Plaintiff's damages.

F. Cause of Action for Fraud Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

Plaintiff incorporates all the allegations of the preceding paragraphs for this cause of action. The Defendants, jointly and severally, made false representations and/or false promises

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to Plaintiff. These false representations and/or false promises made by the Defendants were material misrepresentations or omissions of fact upon which the Defendants intended that Plaintiff would rely, and upon which Plaintiff did reasonably rely to his detriment. The representations and/or promises by the Defendants were false and were made either intentionally or recklessly without regard to their truth or falsity and with the intent to induce Plaintiff into purchasing the insurance policy at issue and/or to accept as true and correct the adjustment of Plaintiff's claim. As a result of the material misrepresentations and omissions upon which Plaintiff detrimentally relied, Plaintiff has suffered damages substantially in excess of the minimum jurisdictional limits of this Court.

The fraudulent acts and/or omissions of the Defendants, as set forth herein, are sufficient, under Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, to justify the imposition of punitive damages against Defendants.

Plaintiff seeks herein, as a result of the Defendants' fraud, Plaintiff's actual damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, compensatory damages, mental anguish damages, punitive damages, costs of court, pre-judgment interest, and post-judgment interest.

G. Cause of Action for Conspiracy Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs herein.

Plaintiff incorporates all the allegations of the preceding paragraphs for this cause of action. The Defendants were members of a combination of two persons; the object of the combination was to accomplish an unlawful purpose and/or a lawful purpose by unlawful means as set forth in the factual allegations and causes of action detailed above, including, but not limited to, to violate the DTPA, to violate Section 542 and 541 of the Texas Insurance Code, to

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commit unfair and deceptive insurance practices, to commit fraud and fraudulent inducement, to commit breaches of contract, and to commit breaches of the duty of good faith and fair dealing; the Defendants had a meeting of the minds on the object or course of action; one or more of the Defendants committed an unlawful, overt act, including, but not limited to violating the DTPA, violating Section 542 and 541 of the Texas Insurance Code, committing unfair and deceptive insurance practices, committing fraud and fraudulent inducement, committing breaches of contract, and committing breaches of the duty of good faith and fair dealing to further the object or course of action which, among other things, was intended to deprive the Plaintiff of the benefit and coverage of the insurance Policy that he purchased; and Plaintiff suffered injury as a proximate result of the wrongful act(s) and/or omission(s).

The conspiratorial acts committed by the Defendants set forth herein were committed with gross negligence, fraud and/or malice, as those terms are used in Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, such as to justify the imposition of punitive damages against the Defendants.

Plaintiff seeks, as a result of the Defendants' conspiracy as set forth herein, Plaintiff's actual damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, compensatory damages, mental anguish damages, punitive damages, pre-judgment interest, post-judgment interest, costs of court, expenses of the litigation, and reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees through trial and all appeals in this matter, as allowed by law.

H. Cause of Action for Aiding and Abetting Against State Farm and Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs and allegations herein.

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1. Assisting or Encouraging

The Defendants committed a tort or torts against the Plaintiff, as described and pled for herein, including, but not limited to, to violate the DTPA, to violate Section 542 and 541 of the Texas Insurance Code, to commit unfair and deceptive insurance practices, to commit fraud and fraudulent inducement, to commit breaches of contract, and to commit breaches of the duty of good faith and fair dealing. The other Defendant(s) had knowledge that the primary actor's conduct constituted a tort or torts. The other Defendant(s) had the intent to assist the primary actor in committing the tort(s). The other Defendant(s) gave the primary actor assistance or encouragement. The other Defendant(s)' assistance or encouragement was a substantial factor in causing the tort(s). Therefore, all of the Defendant(s) are considered tortfeasors and are responsible for the consequences of the tort(s), including joint and several liability for the damages suffered by the Plaintiff as described herein.

The assisting or encouraging "aiding and abetting" acts committed by the Defendants set forth herein were committed with gross negligence, fraud and/or malice, as those terms are used in Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, such as to justify the imposition of punitive damages against the Defendants.

Plaintiff seeks, as a result of the Defendants' assisting or encouraging "aiding and abetting" acts as set forth herein, Plaintiff's actual damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, compensatory damages, mental anguish damages, punitive damages, attorney's fees through trial and all appeals in this matter, expert witness fees, costs of court, costs for copies of depositions, pre-judgment interest, and post-judgment interest, as allowed by law.

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2. Assisting and Participating

The Defendants committed a tort or torts against the Plaintiff, as described and pled for herein, including, but not limited to, to violate the DTPA, to violate Section 542 and 541 of the Texas Insurance Code, to commit unfair and deceptive insurance practices, to commit fraud and fraudulent inducement, to commit breaches of contract, and to commit breaches of the duty of good faith and fair dealing. The primary actor's activity accomplished a tortious result. The other Defendant(s) provided substantial assistance to the primary actor in accomplishing the tortious result. The other Defendant(s)' own conduct, separate from the primary actor's, was a breach of duty to the Plaintiffs. The other Defendant(s)' participation was a substantial factor in causing the tort or torts. Therefore, all of the Defendants are considered tortfeasors and are responsible for the consequences of the tort(s), including joint and several liability for the damages suffered by the Plaintiff as described herein.

The assisting and participating "aiding and abetting" acts committed by the Defendants set forth herein were committed with gross negligence, fraud and/or malice, as those terms are used in Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, such as to justify the imposition of punitive damages against the Defendants.

Plaintiff seeks, as a result of the Defendants' assisting and participating "aiding and abetting" acts as set forth herein, Plaintiff's actual damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, compensatory damages, mental anguish damages, punitive damages, attorney's fees through trial and all appeals in this matter, expert witness fees, costs of court, costs for copies of depositions, pre-judgment interest, and post-judgment interest, as allowed by law.

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I. Cause of Action for Negligence and Gross Negligence Against Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous paragraphs and allegations herein.

The Defendant Gallegos was negligent in giving advice to Plaintiff as to how he could repair his Property so as to prevent further damage to the Plaintiff's Property. This advice as to how to repair Plaintiff's Property was negligent because Plaintiff could not properly repair his Property and prevent future damage by following Gallegos's advice. Plaintiff's Property has sustained further damages as a result. Gallegos owed a duty to use reasonable care when he undertook to advise the Plaintiff as to how he could repair his Property so as to prevent further damage to the Plaintiff's Property. Defendant Gallegos breached this legal duty. The breach proximately caused injury to the Plaintiff.

The acts and failures to act set forth herein were committed with gross negligence, as this term is used in Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, such as to justify the imposition of exemplary damages against the Defendant Gallegos.

J. Cause of Action for Negligent Misrepresentation Against Gallegos

Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all previous and subsequent paragraphs and allegations herein.

Additionally and/or in the alternative, the above and foregoing acts and omissions of Defendant Gallegos constitute negligent misrepresentations that have caused damages to Plaintiff. Defendant Gallegos made representations to Plaintiff in the course of Plaintiff's business or in a transaction in which Defendant had an interest. The Defendant supplied false information for the guidance of others, including Plaintiff. The Defendant did not exercise reasonable care or competence in obtaining or communicating the information to Plaintiff.

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Plaintiff justifiably relied upon such representations, and the Defendant's negligent misrepresentations proximately caused further damages to Plaintiff's Property.

The misrepresentations, acts and/or failures to act set forth herein were committed with gross negligence, fraud and/or malice, as those terms are used in Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, such as to justify the imposition of punitive damages against Defendant Gallegos.

Plaintiff seeks herein, as a result of Defendant's negligent misrepresentations, Plaintiff's actual damages, consequential damages, incidental damages, compensatory damages, mental anguish damages, punitive damages, costs of court, pre-judgment interest, and post-judgment interest.

VII. WAIVER AND ESTOPPEL

Defendants have waived and are estopped from asserting any coverage defenses, conditions, exclusions, or exceptions to coverage not contained in any reservation of rights letter to Plaintiff.

VIII. DAMAGES

The above described acts, omissions, failures and conduct of Defendants has caused Plaintiff's damages, which include, without limitation, the cost to properly repair Plaintiff's property and any investigative and engineering fees incurred in the claim. Plaintiff is also entitled to recover consequential damages from Defendant's breach of contract. Plaintiff is also entitled to recover the amount of Plaintiff's claim plus an 18% per annum penalty on that claim against Defendant as damages under Section 542 of the Texas Insurance Code, plus prejudgment interest and attorneys fees. In an effort to comply with Rule 47(c) of the Texas Rules of Civil

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Procedure, Plaintiff seeks monetary relief over \$200,000.00 but not more than \$1,000,000.00, including damages of any kind, penalties, costs, expenses, pre-judgment interest, and attorney fees. Therefore, all the damages described in this petition are within the jurisdictional limits of the Court.

IX. ADDITIONAL DAMAGES

Defendants have also "knowingly" and "intentionally" committed deceptive trade practices and unfair insurance practices as those terms are defined in the applicable statutes. Because of Defendants' knowing and intentional misconduct, Plaintiff is entitled to additional damages as authorized by Section 17.50(b)(1) of the DTPA. Plaintiff is further entitled to the additional damages that are authorized by Section 541 of the Texas Insurance Code.

X. EXEMPLARY DAMAGES

Defendants' above and foregoing acts and omissions, as set forth above, were done intentionally, with a conscious indifference to the rights and welfare of Plaintiff, and with "malice" as that term is defined in Chapter 41 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code. These violations by Defendants are the type of conduct which the State of Texas protects its citizen against by the imposition of exemplary damages. Therefore, Plaintiff seeks the recovery of exemplary damages in an amount to be determined by the finder of fact that is sufficient to punish Defendants for their wrongful conduct and to set an example to deter Defendants and others similarly situated from committing similar acts in the future.

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XI. ATTORNEYS' FEES

As a result of Defendants' conduct that is described in this petition, Plaintiff has been forced to retain the undersigned attorneys to prosecute this action and have agreed to pay reasonable attorneys' fees. Plaintiff is entitled to recover these attorneys' fees under Chapter 38 of the Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, Sections 541 and 542 of the Texas Insurance Code, and Section 17.50 of the DTPA.

XII. JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff asserts Plaintiff's right to a trial by jury, under Texas Constitution Article 1, Section 15, and makes this demand for a jury trial at least 30 days before the date this case is set for trial, in accordance with Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 216. Plaintiff tenders the fee of \$30.00, as required by Texas Government Code Section 51.604.

XIII. REQUEST FOR DISCLOSURE

Pursuant to Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 194.2, Plaintiff requests that Defendant discloses, within 50 days of the service of this request, the information or material described in Rule 194.2 (a) – 1.

XIV. PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays that Defendants be cited to appear and answer herein, and that upon trial hereof, said Plaintiff have and recover such sums as would reasonably and justly compensate him in accordance with the rules of law and procedure, both as to actual damages, consequential damages, treble damages under the Texas Insurance Code and Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act, and all punitive, additional, and exemplary damages as may be found. In addition, Plaintiff requests the award of attorney's fees for the trial and any appeal of this case, for all costs of court, for prejudgment and post-judgment interest as allowed

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by law, and for any other and further relief, at law or in equity, to which he may show himself to be justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

SPEIGHTS & WORRICH
1350 North Loop 1604 E., Suite 104
San Antonio, Texas 78232
(210) 495-6789 (Telephone)
(210) 495-6790 (Facsimile)

By: *Cody Robinson w/PCen*
CODY ROBINSON
Texas State Bar No. 24085557
cody@speightsfirm.com

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

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State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
Home Office, Bloomington, IL



November 04, 2014

National Claims Negotiators LLC
1301 E Debbie Ln Ste 102 # 35
Mansfield TX 76063-3376

State Farm Claims
P.O. Box 2323
Bloomington IL 61702-2323

RE: Claim Number: 43-420R-671
Date of Loss: October 26, 2013
Our Insured: Milton Hershon

Allen Love:

This letter is in response to your fax received October 31, 2014 asking for copies of the building estimate, settlement letter, and declarations page of Mr. Hershon's homeowners policy.

Enclosed you will find the requested items as well as a copy of the cosmetic exclusion endorsement signed by our insured.

If you have questions or need assistance, please call us at (866) 787-8676 Ext. 17072.

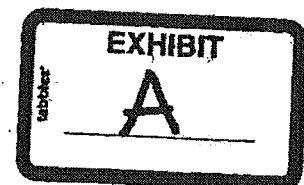
Sincerely,

Bill Wood
Claim Specialist
(866) 787-8676 Ext. 17072
Fax: (888) 208-3019

State Farm Lloyds

Enclosure(s): estimate summary
letter
policy declarations page
signed cosmetic endorsement

cc: Milton Hershon
417 Charleston Ct.
Hurst, TX 76054



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Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Home Office, Bloomington, IL



March 17, 2014

Milton Hershon
417 Charleston CT
Hurst TX 76054-3517

State Farm Claims
P.O. Box 2323
Bloomington IL 61702-2323

RE: Claim Number: 43-420R-671
Date of Loss: October 26, 2013
Our Insured: Milton Hershon
Policy Number: 58B2F3337

Dear Mr. Hershon:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss your claim on March 14, 2014.

As we discussed, your Homeowners Policy FP-7955 TX is endorsed with the following cosmetic exclusion for metal roofs:

EXCLUSION OF COSMETIC LOSS TO METAL ROOF COVERINGS CAUSED BY HAIL

The following is added to LOSSES NOT INSURED:

We do not insure for cosmetic loss to metal roof coverings caused by hail.

As used in this endorsement:

1. cosmetic loss means only that loss that alters the physical appearance of the metal roof covering but does not result in the penetration of water through the metal roof covering or does not result in the failure of the metal roof covering to perform its intended function of keeping out the elements over an extended period of time.
2. metal roof covering means the metal roofing material exposed to the weather, the underlayments applied for moisture protection, and all flashings required in the replacement of a metal roof covering.

We do cover loss by hail to metal roof coverings that will allow the penetration of water through the metal roof covering or that results in the failure of the metal roof covering to perform its intended function of keeping out the elements over an extended period of time.

This endorsement is void unless signed by a named insured, with the exception that a signature is not required on this endorsement if we maintain on file a hard copy, microfilm copy, or electronic record copy form of this endorsement containing a named insured's signature.

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43-420R-671
Page 2
March 17, 2014

Our investigation of your claim revealed hail damage to your stone coated steel shingle roof. This is cosmetic damage which is excluded under the EXCLUSION OF COSMETIC LOSS TO METAL ROOF COVERINGS CAUSED BY HAIL endorsement.

Because we value you as a policyholder and appreciate your business, we want to ensure you understand the coverage decision.

If you have questions or need assistance, please call us.

Sincerely,

Felix Gallegos
Claim Representative
(866) 787-8676 Ext. 11604

Fax: (877) 732-6556

State Farm Lloyds

Enclosure: State Farm estimate

352-277546-15

HERSHON, MILTON

43-420R-671



State Farm
P.O. Box 2323
Bloomington, IL 61702-2323
Fax: 1-877-732-6556

Structural Damage Claim Policy

When you have a covered structural damage claim to your real property, you should know:

- We want you to receive quality repair work to restore the damages to your property.
- We will provide you with a detailed estimate of the scope of the damage and costs of repairs. Should the contractor you select have questions concerning our estimate, they should contact your claim representative directly.
- Depending upon the complexity of your repair, our estimate may or may not include an allowance for general contractor's overhead and profit. If you have questions regarding general contractor's overhead and profit and whether general contractor services are appropriate for your loss, please contact your claim representative before proceeding with repairs.
- There may be building codes, ordinances, laws, or regulations that affect the repairs of your property. These items may or may not be covered by your policy. Please contact your claim representative if you have any questions regarding coverage which may be available under your policy.
- If you select a contractor whose estimate is the same as or lower than our estimate, based on the same scope of damages, we will pay based upon their estimate. If your contractor's estimate is higher than ours, you should contact your claim representative prior to beginning repairs.
- State Farm® cannot authorize any contractor to proceed with work on your property. Repairs should proceed only with your authorization.
- State Farm does not guarantee the quality of the workmanship of any contractor or guarantee that the work will be accomplished within any specific time frame.
- It is understood that the contractor is hired by you, our insured, and that they work for you - not State Farm.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding your claim, please contact your claim representative immediately.

352-277546-15

State Farm

HERSHON, MILTON

43-420R-671

Insured:	HERSHON, MILTON	Estimate:	43-420R-671
Property:	417 Charleston CT	Claim Number:	43420R671
	Hurst, TX 76054-3517	Policy Number:	58B2F3337
Home:	817-282-4050	Price List:	TXDF28_MAR14
Business:	817-282-4050		Restoration/Service/Remodel
Type of Loss:	Hail		
Deductible:	\$3,110.00		
Date of Loss:	10/26/2013		
Date Inspected:	3/14/2014		

Summary for Coverage A - Dwelling - 35 Windstorm and Hail - HL

Line Item Total	1,413.48
Material Sales Tax	40.28
Replacement Cost Value	1,453.76
Less Deductible	(3,110.00)
Replacement Cost Value Total	(1,656.24)
Net Payment	\$0.00

Felix Gallegos
866-787-8676 x 11604

ALL AMOUNTS PAYABLE ARE SUBJECT TO THE TERMS, CONDITIONS AND LIMITS OF YOUR POLICY.

352-277546-15

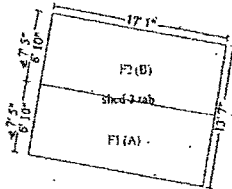
State Farm

HERSHON, MILTON

43-420R-671

417 charleston ct, 76054

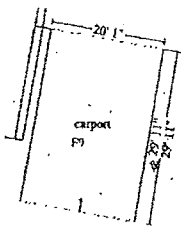
Source - Eagle View



shed 3 tab

251.68 Surface Area	2.52 Number of Squares
63.62 Total Perimeter Length	17.05 Total Ridge Length

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TAX	RCV
Remove Tear off, haul and dispose of comp. shingles - 3 tab	2.52 SQ	37.20	0.00	93.74
3 tab - 20 yr. - composition shingle roofing - incl. felt	3.00 SQ	144.49	17.73	451.20
Drip edge	30.00 LF	1.46	1.49	45.29
Totals: shed 3 tab			19.22	590.23



carport

601.45 Surface Area	6.01 Number of Squares
79.94 Total Perimeter Length	

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TAX	RCV
R&R Fascia - metal - 8"	30.00 LF	4.05	3.61	125.11
Totals: carport			3.61	125.11

Area Totals: Source - Eagle View

3,324.68 Exterior Wall Area

5,174.39 Surface Area

179.19 Total Ridge Length

51.74 Number of Squares

103.99 Total Hip Length

1,180.41 Total Perimeter Length

Total: Source - Eagle View

22.83

715.34

Area Totals: 417 charleston ct, 76054

352-277546-15

State Farm

HERSHON, MILTON

43-420R-671

3,324.68 Exterior Wall Area

5,174.39 Surface Area

179.19 Total Ridge Length

51.74 Number of Squares

103.99 Total Hip Length

1,180.41 Total Perimeter Length

Total: 417 charleston ct, 76054

22.83

715.34

Exterior

0.00 SF Walls

0.00 SF Ceiling

0.00 SF Walls & Ceiling

0.00 SF Floor

0.00 SF Short Wall

0.00 LF Floor Perimeter

0.00 SF Long Wall

0.00 LF Ceil. Perimeter

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TAX	RCV
Gutters.....				
R&R Gutter / downspout - aluminum - up to 5"	109.00 LF	4.58	17.45	516.67
Haul debris - per pickup truck load - including dump fees	1.00 EA	101.82	0.00	101.82
Totals: Exterior			17.45	618.49

Labor Minimums Applied

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TAX	RCV
Siding labor minimum	1.00 EA	119.93	0.00	119.93
Totals: Labor Minimums Applied			0.00	119.93

Line Item Totals: 43-420R-671

40.28

1,453.76

Grand Total Areas:

3,324.68 Exterior Wall Area

5,174.39 Surface Area

179.19 Total Ridge Length

51.74 Number of Squares

103.99 Total Hip Length

1,180.41 Total Perimeter Length

352-277546-15

Trade Summary

Includes all applicable Tax, General Contractor O&P, and Labor Minimums

DESCRIPTION	LINE ITEM QTY	REPL. COST TOTAL	ACV	NON-REC. DEPREC.	MAX ADDL. AMT AVAIL.
DMO GENERAL DEMOLITION					
Haul debris - per pickup truck load - including dump fees	1.00 EA	\$101.82	\$101.82	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL GENERAL DEMOLITION		\$101.82	\$101.82	\$0.00	\$0.00
RFG ROOFING					
3 tab - 20 yr. - composition shingle roofing - incl. felt	3.00 SQ	\$451.20	\$451.20	\$0.00	\$0.00
Remove Tear off, haul and dispose of comp. shingles - 3 tab	2.52 SQ	\$93.74	\$93.74	\$0.00	\$0.00
Drip edge	30.00 LF	\$45.29	\$45.29	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL ROOFING		\$590.23	\$590.23	\$0.00	\$0.00
SDG SDG					
Siding labor minimum	1.00 EA	\$119.93	\$119.93	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL SDG		\$119.93	\$119.93	\$0.00	\$0.00
SFG SOFFIT, FASCIA, & GUTTER					
R&R Fascia - metal - 8"	30.00 LF	\$125.11	\$125.11	\$0.00	\$0.00
R&R Gutter / downspout - aluminum - up to 5"	109.00 LF	\$516.67	\$516.67	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL SOFFIT, FASCIA, & GUTTER		\$641.78	\$641.78	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTALS		\$1,453.76	\$1,453.76	\$0.00	\$0.00

Note: Slight variances may be found within report sections due to rounding

Date: 11/4/2014 2:18 PM

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352-277546-15

Nov. 3, 2014 4:23PM SHALYN S CLARK INSURANCE

No. 5304 P. 1

DECLARATIONS

We will provide the insurance described in this policy in return for the premium and compliance with all applicable provisions of this policy.

Coverage afforded by this policy is provided by:

STATE FARM LLOYDS
A LLOYDS COMPANY IN DALLAS, TEXAS
PO BOX 799100
DALLAS TX 75379

58-82-F333-7 Policy Number

Named Insured and Mailing Address
HERSHORN, MILTON
417 CHARLESTON CT
HURST, TX 76054-3517

The Policy Period begins and ends at 12:01 a.m. Standard Time at the residence premises.

Automatic Renewal - If the Policy Period is shown as 12 months, this policy will be renewed automatically subject to the premiums, rules and forms in effect each succeeding policy period. If this policy is terminated, we will give you and the Mortgagee/Lienholder written notice in compliance with the policy provisions or as required by law.

04/20/2014 Effective Date
12months-Policy Period
04/20/2015 Expiration of Policy Period

Limit of Liability - Section 1
\$ 311,000 Dwelling (Coverage A)

Deductibles - Section 1 14/73110
ALL LOSSES In case of loss under this policy, the deductible will be applied per occurrence and will be deducted from the amount of the loss. Other deductibles may apply - refer to your policy.

Policy Type
Homeowners Policy
Dwell Repl Cost - Similar Construction
Increase Dwig Up to \$62,200 - Option ID

Location of Premises
417 CHARLESTON CT
HURST, TX 76054-3517

1e Wind or Hail

Policy Premium \$2,267.00

Forms, Options, & Endorsements

FP-7955.TX HOMEOWNERS POL
LSP B1 LMT REPLC COST-B
OPT OL BLD ORD/LAW-100
FE-5369 WTR DMG 311000
FE-3533 HO-W POL END

LSP A1
OPT ID
FE-5398
FE-5369
FE-R706.1

SMIR CONST-A
COV A-INCR DWLG
FUNGUS EXCL
DWL FND 46650
EXCL-ROOF COV

Mortgagee
OMNIAMERICAN MORTGAGE SERVICES
ITS SUCCESSORS AND/OR ASSIGNS
1320 S UNIVERSITY DR STE 106
FORT WORTH, TX 76107-5775

Agent Name & Address
CLARK, SHALYN S
2000 PRECINCT LINE ROAD
HURST, TX
76054-3185 (817) 788-1939

Loan Number: 2003472658

MORTGAGE COPY

559-916.5

2143836180